

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated January 2, 2009 has been received and its contents have been carefully reviewed.

Summary of the Office Action

The objection to the Abstract regarding the word "invention" is withdrawn. The objection regarding Figures 9-10 is withdrawn. Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35. U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by admitted prior art *Takenaka* (US Patent No. 6,301,524).

Summary of the Response to the Office Action

Applicants have added new claim 4. Support for new claim 4 is provided throughout Applicants' specification, for example, at page 1, lines 16-19; page 2, lines 14-22; and page 8, lines 13-15. Claims 1-4 are pending in this application for further consideration. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration in view of the remarks presented herein below.

All Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-3 stand rejected under 35. U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by admitted prior art *Takenaka*. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection as being based upon reference that neither teach nor suggest the combination of features recited by independent claim 1.

Takenaka does not teach that a gait pattern is generated from a desired ZMP trajectory "using ZMP preview information, wherein a driving quantity of the center of gravity in one moment is determined on the basis of a fed-back motion state of the center of gravity in the moment and a previewed or planned future ZMP trajectory." The Office Action asserts that a

gait generation system of *Takenaka* meets the limitation of the claimed gait pattern generating device (see page 3 of the Office Action). Applicants respectfully disagree. In the present invention, the gait pattern is generated using a “previewed or planned future” ZMP trajectory. However, in Fig. 45 of *Takenaka*, the mixed gait instantaneous value generator uses ZMP at the current time (time t) and the states obtained at the preceding time (time $t-\Delta t$) (see column 29, lines 7-17).

As pointed out in MPEP §2131, to anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim. Thus, a claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference. Because *Takenaka* fails to teach or suggest each feature of independent claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, claims 2-3 depend from allowable independent claim 1. Applicants respectfully assert that claims 2-3 are also allowable because of the additional features they recite and the reasons stated above.

New Claim 4

Applicants have added new dependent claim 4 to further define the invention. Applicants respectfully assert that new dependent claim 4 is allowable over the applied art at least because of the “a table-cart model is used for simplifying a characteristic of the walking robot, and the fed-back motion is determined based on a time-derivative of acceleration of a cart of the table-cart model in which the cart corresponds to the center of gravity” recited therein.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing Amendment Accompanied by RCE, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and the timely allowance of all pending claims. Should the Examiner feel that there are any issues outstanding after consideration of this response, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative to expedite prosecution.

If there are any other fees due in connection with the filing of this response, please charge the fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0310. If a fee is required for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 not accounted for above, such an extension is requested, and the fee should also be charged to our Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

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